

Listing of claims:

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a cost-minimizing bid
2 set for reverse combinatorial auctions where all-or-nothing bids are
3 allowed, said method comprising:
4 receiving a plurality of bids, each bid having a timestamp, a bid
5 price and item information identifying at least one bid item;
6 introducing a decision variable for each bid;
7 introducing a counting variable to indicate whether bids from a
8 supplier are chosen in an optimal bid set;
9 modeling demand constraints for each item using the decision
10 variable for each bid variables;
11 modeling minimum and maximum numbers of suppliers based
12 on the counting variables;
13 introducing dummy bids, variables based on said modeled
14 demand constraints, to ensure computability of a cost-minimizing bid
15 set meeting said modeled demand constraints ~~existence of feasible~~
16 ~~solutions;~~
17 ~~for a given cost,~~ formulating an objective of choosing bids that
18 arrive early, for a given cost, based on an additional timestamped
19 objective with the given cost level as a constraint;
20 introducing price modifications to at least one of said bid's
21 respective item information and adjusting, based on said price
22 modifications, handle ~~the~~ the formulated objective of choosing bids that
23 arrive early, and
24 generating a winner of the reverse combinatorial auction, by
25 selecting the cost-minimizing bid set from among said plurality of bids, the

26 selecting based on said time stamps, said bid prices, said item information,
27 said formulated objective of choosing bids that arrive early, and said
28 modeled demand constraints, identified by said method as winner of said
29 reverse combinatorial auction.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the auction is a single-round
2 auction.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the auction is a multiple-round
2 auction.

4-11. (Canceled).